

# THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

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VOL. XXIII No. 46

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE,

SAURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 1917.

WHOLE NUMBER 1190

## GENERAL VON HINDENBURG



General von Hindenburg is commander of the German forces that are opposed to the army of Russia in East Prussia.

## AMERICA WINNING THE WAR

Secretary Redfield Says U. S. People Need Have No Apprehension as to Progress.

Washington, Aug. 30.—"The war is being prosecuted successfully so far as America's participation in it is concerned. You may have no hesitation about telling the American people that they need have no apprehension on that score."

This is the message of Secretary of Commerce Redfield to the American people on the progress of the military operations under the American flag. In an interview Mr. Redfield outlined what is being done under the auspices of the Stars and Stripes and told in language so convincing that it admitted of no shadow of doubt that American genius—Yankee ingenuity—is making rapid strides toward the winning of the war. Details of the operations cannot, of course, be revealed.

## 2,500,000 JAPS WAIT CALL

Great Army Under Arms Ready to Go to Front at France's Call.

London, Aug. 30.—Reports are again current that Japan may send an army to France to assist in a mighty joint offensive. Advice from Paris quoted Senator Lucien Rubert as saying that Japan is keeping 2,500,000 men under arms and that the major portion of this force is available for service if it can be transported to the zone of action.

## BERLIN WAR PLANT BURNED

Rumors of Heavy Loss of Life in Blaze at the Schwartzkopf Torpedo Works.

Copenhagen, Aug. 30.—The foundry of the Schwartzkopf torpedo works in Berlin was destroyed by fire on Sunday. There are rumors that a considerable loss of life attended the conflagration.

## CHICAGO MAN IS SELECTED

Thomas P. Flynn Is Elected President of American Federation of Catholic Societies.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 30.—Thomas P. Flynn of Chicago, was elected president of the American Federation of Catholic societies in the annual convention of that organization here. His selection and that of all other officials was by a unanimous vote on recommendation of a nominating committee. Other officers elected are:

J. J. Rines, Buffalo, N. Y., first vice president; J. A. Collier, Shakopee, Minn., second vice president; John Frey, New York city, third vice president; George Reinhardt, Kansas City, fourth vice president; Joseph McLaughlin, Philadelphia, fifth vice president; E. J. Cooney, Louisville, Ky., sixth vice president; Anthony Matre, Chicago, re-elected secretary; C. N. Schulte, Detroit, treasurer; Frank Reising of Kansas, marshal; Chief Shooting Hawk, Yankton, S. D., color bearer.

Pennsylvania Miners Strike. Shenandoah, Pa., Aug. 30.—Underground motormen at Numbers 2, 3 and 4 collieries of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal company, walked out on strike here today, rendering 5,000 men idle.

## WILSON REJECTS PEACE PROPOSAL MADE BY POPE

Declares U. S. Must Fight Until Treaty Will Mean More Than "Scrap of Paper."

## WON'T TAKE KAISER'S WORD

President Says, "We Must Await New Evidence of the Purposes of Central Empires"—Opposed to Economic War and Annexations—Wants Restitution for Belgium.

Washington, Aug. 30.—President Wilson rejected the peace proposals of Pope Benedict XV at this time.

In a note sent the pope, he declared that the United States must continue to fight until it is satisfied that a peace treaty would be more than another "scrap of paper" to be torn by Germany's rulers at will.

While the president's note is a rejection of peace at this time, it leaves the road wide open for further discussion and proposals.

"We cannot take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that is to endure," he says. And later he adds:

"We must await some new evidence of the purposes of the great peoples of the central empires. God grant it may be given soon and in a way to restore the confidence of all peoples everywhere in the faith of nations and the possibility of a covenanted peace."

President Wilson declares flatly against an economic war after the war, against annexations or indemnities other than restitutions, such as payment to Belgium and the return of Alsace-Lorraine to France.

Text of Wilson's Reply to Pope.

"August 27, 1917.  
To His Holiness, Benedictus XV, Pope.

"In acknowledgment of the communication of your holiness to the belligerent peoples, dated August 1, 1917, the president of the United States requests me to transmit the following reply:

"Every heart that has not been blinded and hardened by this terrible war must be touched by this moving appeal of his holiness the pope, must feel the dignity and force of the humane and generous motives which prompted it, and must fervently wish that we might take the path of peace he so persuasively points out.

"But it would be folly to take it if it does not, in fact, lead to the goal he proposes. Our response must be based upon the stern facts and upon nothing else.

"It is not a mere cessation of arms he desires; it is a stable and enduring peace. This agony must not be gone through with again, and it must be a matter of very sober judgment what will insure us against it.

"His holiness in substance proposes that we return to the status quo ante bellum, and that then there be a general condonation, disarmament, and a concert of nations, based upon an acceptance of the principle of arbitration; that by a similar concert freedom of the seas be established; and that the territorial claims of France and Italy, the perplexing problems of the Balkan states, and the restitution of Poland be left to such conciliatory adjustments as may be possible in the new temper of such a peace, due regard being paid to the aspirations of the peoples whose political fortunes and affiliations will be involved.

Places Blame on the Kaiser.

"It is manifest that no part of this program can be successfully carried out unless the restitution of the status quo ante furnishes a firm and satisfactory basis for it.

"The object of this war is to deliver the free peoples of the world from the menace and the actual power of a vast military establishment, controlled by an irresponsible government which, having secretly planned to dominate the world, proceeded to carry the plan out without regard either to the sacred obligations of treaty or the long established principles of international action and honor; which chose its own time for the war; delivered its blow fiercely and suddenly; stopped at no barrier either of law or mercy; swept a whole continent within the tide of blood, not the blood of soldiers only, but the blood of innocent women and children also, and of the helpless poor; and now stands balked but not defeated, the enemy of four-fifths of the world.

"This power is not the German people. It is the ruthless master of the German people. It is no business of ours how that great people came under its control or submitted with temporary zest to the domination of its purpose; but it is our business to see to it

## PREPAREDNESS



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that the history of the rest of the world is no longer left to its handling.

No Reprisal Upon German People.

"To deal with such a power by way of peace upon the plan proposed by his holiness the pope would, so far as we can see, involve a recuperation of its strength and a renewal of its policy; would make it necessary to create a permanent hostile combination of nations against the German people, who are its instruments; and would result in abandoning the newborn Russia to the intrigue, the manifold subtle interference, and the certain counter-revolution which would be attempted by all the malign influence to which the German government has of late accustomed the world.

"Can peace be based upon a restitution of its power or upon any word of honor it could pledge in a treaty of settlement and accommodation?"

"Responsible statesmen must now everywhere see, if they never saw before, that no peace can rest securely upon political or economic restrictions meant to benefit some nations and cripple or embarrass others, upon vindictive action of any sort, or any kind of revenge or deliberate injury.

"The American people have suffered intolerable wrongs at the hands of the Imperial German government, but they desire no reprisal upon the German people, who have themselves suffered all things in this war which they did not choose. They believe that peace should rest upon the rights of peoples, not the rights of governments—the rights of peoples great or small, weak or powerful—their equal right to freedom and security and self-government, and to a participation upon fair terms in the economic opportunities of the world—the German people, of course, included, if they will accept equality and not seek domination.

Purposes of U. S. Known to World.

"The test, therefore, of every plan of peace is this: Is it based upon the faith of all the peoples involved or merely upon the word of an ambitious and intriguing government, on the one hand, and of a group of free peoples on the other? This is a test which goes to the root of the matter, and it is the test which must be applied.

"The purposes of the United States in this war are known to the whole world—to every people to whom the truth has been permitted to come. They do not need to be stated again. We seek no material advantage of any kind. We believe that the intolerable wrongs done in this war by the furious and brutal power of the Imperial German government ought to be repaired, but not at the expense of the sovereignty of any people—rather a vindication of the sovereignty both of those that are weak and those that are strong.

"Punitive damages, the dismemberment of empires, the establishment of selfish and exclusive economic leagues, we deem inadvisable and in the end worse than futile, no proper basis for a peace of any kind, least of all for an enduring peace. That must be based upon justice and fairness and the common rights of mankind.

Won't Take Word of Kaiser.

"We cannot take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that it to endure, unless explicitly supported by such conclusive evidence of the will and purpose of the German people themselves as the other peoples of the world would be justified in accepting. Without such guarantees, treaties of settlement, agreements for disarmament, covenants to set up arbitration in the place of force, territorial adjustments, reconstitutions of small nations, if made with the German government, no man, no nation could now depend on. We must await some new evidence of the purposes of the great peoples of the central powers. God grant it may be given soon and in a way to restore the confidence of all peoples everywhere in the faith of nations and the possibility of a covenanted peace.

"ROBERT LANSING, Secretary of State of the United States of America."

## HALF BILLION IS ADDED TO PROFIT TAX

Senate Committee Boosts Rate in House Bill From 26 to 33 Per Cent.

## OTHER SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES

Minimum of 6 Per Cent and Maximum of 10 Per Cent of Income on Capital Invested Was Also Approved.

Washington, Aug. 30.—To meet the demand for greater taxation of war profits, the senate finance committee agreed to amendments carrying war profits taxes of more than 10 per cent in place of the present provision for 26 per cent.

The amendments would increase the war profits tax yield from \$562,000,000 to \$1,060,000,000 in addition to the taxes under the present law and yield a third of the bill's total taxes.

The pre-war profits rate of the bill was retained by the committee, but it added a new maximum war profit tax rate of 60 per cent on profits in excess of 300 per cent. The maximum in the bill was 50 per cent on profits over 250 per cent.

Change in Exemptions.

Another substantial change was made in provisions for exemptions. A minimum of 6 per cent and a maximum of 10 per cent on incomes on capital actually invested was approved. These provisions would care for corporations suffering abnormal depression during the pre-war period. Corporations making less than 4 per cent during that period would be entitled to at least that exemption, and if more than 10 per cent, they would receive not over 10 per cent deduction.

By these changes the committee estimated that the proposed levy would take \$1,280,000,000 of the \$3,000,000,000, of \$4,000,000,000 war profits estimated to be earned this year.

La Follette and Gore Absent.

Senators La Follette and Gore, prominent in the faction urging more radical profits taxation, did not attend the committee meeting. Chairman Simmons and others of the majority hope the new levy—almost doubled—will command sufficient support to cause rejection of the more drastic proposals.

Debate on the publishers' taxes was begun by Senator Shields of Tennessee, who supported Senator McKellar's substitute and argued that magazines and other periodicals not newspapers cause the deficit in carrying second class mail.

Secretary McAdoo was before the house ways and means committee to discuss the terms of the administration's \$11,538,945,460 bond and certificate bill.

## BREAD STRIKES IN AUSTRIA

Zurich Reports Spy Troops Used to Drive Men Back into Factories.

Zurich, Aug. 30.—Numerous "bread strikes" are occurring throughout Austria, according to a traveler who arrived here from Vienna. At some points troops were used to drive the workmen back into the factories. One striker at the Ringhoffer iron works, near Vienna, was sentenced to two years imprisonment because he complained that he was so weak from hunger that he could not do the work required of him. Hundreds of arrests have been made in other cases.

## RUSS SOLDIERS KILL RIOTERS

Troops of Garrison and Civilians Engage in Battle in Finland.

## RAIL TIEUP IS PREDICTED

M. Froloff of the Engineers' Alliance, Reports a State of Utter Disorganization of Transportation—Gen. Korniloff Is Hopeful.

Petrograd, Aug. 30.—A Russian division abandoned its positions in the region of Fokshani, on the Roumanian front, and fled in disorder, the war office announces.

London, Aug. 30.—Serious rioting at Bjorneborg, Finland, is reported in a private telegram from Haparanda to Copenhagen, forwarded by the Central News to London. It is said fighting between Finns and soldiers of the Russian garrison lasted for several hours and that several persons were killed or wounded.

Russ Rail Tieup Predicted.

Moscow, Aug. 30.—At the third general sitting of the national conference representatives of the railways, including M. Froloff of the engineers' alliance, reported that there existed a state of utter disorganization of transportation. Railroad service, unless improved, he said, would cease completely by November. The representatives gave warning that the consequences would be terrible, both at home and on the front, and that the army might turn on the country and commit unexampled excesses.

The extreme demands of the railway workers, the speakers said, played an important part in this disorganization. They called on all those engaged in the transport services to sacrifice personal interests for the interests of the country.

M. Grusenberg, speaking as the representative of the Jews, said that they loved their country, notwithstanding their unprecedented persecution under the old regime, and had contributed greatly to the emancipation of the people and the defense against the enemy.

"Couriand to Germany? Never."

Representatives of the Ukraine and of western or white Russia said the people were ready to make any sacrifices for the good of the country. The spokesman for the Letts declared Couriand would never belong to Germany. Delegates representing the Mussulman alliance said all Mussulman citizens of Russia fully supported the provisional government.

General Grouznoff, former military governor of Moscow, told the delegates the chief problem was to save Russia from the enemy and that to this end it was necessary to re-establish army discipline by eliminating politics, strengthening the authority of the leaders, limiting the power of soldiers' committees to economic functions and allowing the commander in chief to exercise unreserved authority.

General Korniloff Is Optimistic.

General Korniloff is in no wise discouraged by his reception at the Moscow conference. Judging by an interview granted by him before his departure for the front. He declared his confidence that the government immediately after the conference would sanction the measures advocated by him both at the front and in the rear.

## GERMANS TO GET MESSAGE

President to See to It That Teuton Peoples Get Reply to Pope.

Washington, Aug. 30.—The German people are going to have an accurate translation of President Wilson's reply to Pope Benedict's peace proposals made available to them. The president, officials said believes that his sentiments must make for peace when their true value is recognized by the Germans themselves. But he realizes that every effort will be made by the German autocracy to prevent the exact American position becoming known in Germany.

Consequently elaborate plans have been made to prevent a policy of misrepresentation and indirectness solidifying the German people against the United States, admittedly a grave possibility under existing circumstances.

## TWO NORSE STEAMERS SUNK

One, the Kongsli, Is Registered as Belgian Relief Ship, Torpedoed Off Spanish Coast.

London, Aug. 30.—The Norwegian steamer Kongsli, from St. Nazaire, France, for the United States, has been sunk off the Spanish coast, according to a telegram received in Christiania from Santander and forwarded by the Morning Post correspondent.

## PROF. VERNON KELLOGG



Prof. Vernon Kellogg of Stanford university, Cal., is one of the leading volunteers assisting Herbert Hoover in the food administration. Professor Kellogg was an executive in the commission for relief in Belgium from May, 1915, until Mr. Hoover came to this country. Since that time he has been helping Mr. Hoover here. He is the author of several books on biology and many scientific papers.

## ATTACK ON KERENSKY

Premier's Peace Remarks Draw German Fire.

Berlin Newspaper Resents the Charge That Separate Offer Had Teuton Source.

Amsterdam, Aug. 30.—The semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung attacks Premier Kerensky for his remarks in reference to offers of a separate peace made before the Moscow conference. The newspaper says: "Premier Kerensky falsely attributed to us without proof efforts toward and offers of a separate peace. What Germany can do to pave the way to peace already has been done, but from Russia, where the peace movement originated, the echo came back dictated by Lloyd George, Poincare and President Wilson, destroying all the efforts of the Russian democracy."

"It is reported, moreover, that the revolutionary Russian government again is fixing its mind on the possession of Constantinople."

The Vorwarts says that neither the German people, the press nor the reichstag have heard anything concerning such offers. It calls for a speedy and thorough explanation. The newspaper declares that the principles defined in the reichstag peace resolution would be harmed by secret offers of peace, while the refusal of such offers by Germany's enemies would be a moral defeat for Germany.

German newspapers are not disposed favorably toward the Moscow conference. The Cologne Gazette describes it as the "Comedy of Moscow," adding that it is intended to excite the Russian people to further and sacrifices. The Kreuz Zeitung says:

"Premier Kerensky's speech proves that the Russian government is acting automatically. The Russian peasant has to bleed at the government's command and without knowing the government's aims. This is the freedom which the revolution has given the country."

## NEGROES THREATEN UPRISING

Texas Blacks Said to Organize to Slay Whites—German Influence Is Blamed.

Austin, Tex., Aug. 30.—Negroes of the Barzoo river valley district are organizing for an uprising against the whites. Representative J. D. Nell, who also is a member of the state council of defense, declared on the floor of the house here. The movement was called to the attention of federal authorities at Washington ten days ago, and agents of the government are at work on the case. It was said. It is claimed that the same influence namely German, which caused the rioting of negro soldiers at Houston and the death of 17 persons, has been at work among the Brazos valley negroes.

## 5 PERSONS BURN TO DEATH

Michigan Fruit Dealer, His Wife and Three Daughters, Perish in Flames.

Bad Axe, Mich., Aug. 30.—Andrew Lupe, fruit dealer, his wife and three daughters, were burned to death in their apartments over Lupe's store. George Goodhall, a roomer, escaped by jumping 40 feet to the sidewalk. The store was destroyed.